

American homes and commercial buildings consume 71 percent of our nation's electricity, 54 percent of its natural gas, and 42 percent of all its energy. The model residential and commercial building energy codes developed by the International Code Council and ASHRAE, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers, have the potential to benefit both consumers and the environment. The Department of Energy's Building Energy Codes Program participates in this process by researching, further developing, and implementing these codes. A study of this program by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory found that model energy codes saved consumers roughly \$44 billion and cut greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 3.9 billion metric tons over the past 20 years. In addition, the energy efficiency gained by updating building energy codes stands to stabilize the U.S. demand for electricity and decrease the need to construct more power plants.

The economic and environmental benefits of model building codes are also appreciated by homebuyers. According to a 2013 survey conducted by the National Association of Home Builders, 9 out of 10 Americans will pay 2 to 3 percent more for a new home with energy efficient features. Homeowners understand that having an energy efficient home reduces monthly utility bills and provides long-lasting savings. Additionally, many homebuyers are aware that energy efficient features make their homes quieter and more comfortable, while also raising their resale values.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear from all of the benefits gained from building energy codes that we should continue to support upgrading model codes, adopting the codes in state and local jurisdictions, and improving compliance. This will save Americans money, contribute to our nation's energy security, and help protect our environment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEPTUNE HOSE COMPANY NO. 1

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Long Branch Fire Department's Neptune Hose Company No. 1 on the 150th anniversary of its founding. Neptune Hose Company No. 1 continues to live up to its motto "Semper Paratus" ("Always Ready") to ensure the safety of Long Branch residents and its dedication is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

The first organized fire company in Monmouth County, Neptune Hose Company No. 1, originally known as the Neptune Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, was founded by Dr. James O. Green in 1866. The name was changed in September 1877 to reflect Long Branch's new public water system and fire hydrants. Initially maintained by share and stock holders, the company chartered as Neptune Hose Company No. 1 on November 10, 1877. Over the years, the company was housed at different locations, finally settling at its current property in January 1906. It underwent renovations from 1974 until 1975 to update and

expand the structure and again in 2007 to repair and restore the second floor.

Neptune Hose Company No. 1 was one of the three fire companies, along with Oceanic Fire Engine Company No. 1 and the Atlantic Fire Engine and Hook and Ladder Company No. 2, to organize the Long Branch Fire Department on November 2, 1878. Since the inception of the department, sixteen members of Neptune Hose Company No. 1 have served as Chief.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of Neptune Hose Company No. 1 and thanking its members for upholding the duty to serve and protect the community.

GORDON CENTRAL MARCHING BAND

HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gordon Central High School Blue Wave Marching Band on being selected to perform in the 2016 National Memorial Day Parade.

The Blue Wave Marching Band was established in 1985 and has a long tradition of superior performances which have taken them all across our great country.

This year the Blue Wave Band will be marching in honor of Lance Corporal Cody Kristopher Warren, a saxophone player and drum major for the Blue Wave Band who joined the Marines upon graduation.

In 2006, Cody made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while serving in Iraq.

I am proud and excited that the Blue Wave Marching Band is performing in his honor in this year's National Memorial Day Parade.

I wish them the best of luck as they bring a piece of Georgia to our nation's capital.

RECOGNIZING ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church is celebrating 50 years of faithful service to the people of the Central Bucks County and Warrington area. Congratulations. This is a milestone for a church that has at its heart, faith and spirituality and a mission to fulfill the needs of all congregants. Devoted church leaders and pastors have overseen this spiritual task throughout St. Paul's 50-year history and continue on this same path, today. Since 1966, the church has grown to include more than one generation of faithful Christian families who care about each other and their neighbors. And for your 50 years of spiritual guidance, we extend our heartiest congratulations on this Golden Jubilee with sincere wishes for continued growth and service in the coming years.

PEARLAND ISD PARAPROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following paraprofessionals of Pearland Independent School District for being named Paraprofessionals of the Year.

Each school year, principals, teachers and staff members are recognized by the school district with various awards as a reflection of their hard work and dedication to their students and the school as a whole. This year 23 paraprofessionals were awarded with the title "Paraprofessionals of the Year": Tara Randall from Carlestone Elementary, Julie Putnam from Challenger Elementary, Sharleen Escobar from Cockrell Elementary, Jacob Chavarria from C.J. Harris Elementary, Laura Lemmon from Lawhon Elementary, Sherry Schluntz from Magnolia Elementary, Tara Pitre from Massey Ranch Elementary, Suzan Kimball from Rustic Oak Elementary, Kim Phillips from Shadycrest Elementary, Lawonza Hampton from Silvercrest Elementary, Mindy Bitner from Silverlake Elementary, Christine Coleman from Alexander Middle School, Kenneth Martin II from Jamison Middle School, Reginald Mitchell from Rogers Middle School, Aurelia Montes from Sablatura Middle School, Deborah Cooks from Berry Miller Junior High, Beth Powell from Pearland Junior High East, Armando Torres from Pearland Junior High South, Maria Salais from Pearland Junior High West, Rebecca Moreno from Dawson High School, April Shecterle from Pearland High School, Jure Mejia from Turner College and Career High School, and Maria Fogarty from the PACE Center. These paraprofessionals go above and beyond to inspire their students and create a supportive educational environment. We are grateful for their commitment to education and providing a safe, inspirational learning environment for our students.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to these dedicated Pearland paraprofessionals for being named Paraprofessionals of the Year. We thank them for all that they do.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE DOG MEAT FESTIVAL IN YULIN, GUANGXI ZHUANG AUTONOMOUS REGION, CHINA, AND URGING THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT TO END THE DOG MEAT TRADE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a very important resolution condemning the dog meat festival in Yulin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China, and urging the Chinese Government to end their dog meat trade.

The Dog Meat Festival begins on June 21st. More than 10,000 dogs are reported to be captured, transported in cages under horrific conditions, and slaughtered every year for this